



Claims readable on the elected species are Claims 1-9 and 20-24.

Responsive to the second requirement for an election of species for searching purposes, Applicants hereby elect oral mucositis that is a side effect of radiation therapy. Claims readable on the elected species are Claims 1-8 and 10-32.

Please amend the application as follows:

In the Specification

Please replace the paragraph at page 3, lines 5 through 12 with the following paragraph

This invention relates to the use of polyionenes are effective in treating or preventing oral mucositis in hamsters. For example, the polyionene poly(4,4'-trimethylenebis(1-methylpiperidinium)-alt-octane) (X) was effective in significantly reducing the severity of oral mucositis at a concentration as low as 1.0 mg/mL. This contrasts with chlorhexidine, which is commonly used to treat oral mucositis but was unsuccessful in treating the hamster model at a concentration of 0.5% (v/v). Based on this discovery, methods of treating and/or preventing mucositis in a mammal are disclosed.